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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/60/510 and Corr.1)]

60/175. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 59/159 of 20 December 2004 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] as well as the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century[2] and its plans of action,[3]

Reaffirming the commitment to combat transnational crime, undertaken by Heads of State and Government during the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005,[4]

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and the rule of law and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global crime is a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to combat transnational crime,

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] Resolution 55/59, annex.

[3] Resolution 56/261, annex.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

Convinced of the need for closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime in all its forms and manifestations, including criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism, inter alia, through the development by the General Assembly of a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy, and bearing in mind the role that is played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Reaffirming, according to its resolution 60/177 of 16 December 2005, the commitment of the Member States to implement the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005,

Recognizing existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, noting in this context the ongoing work of the Bali and Puebla Processes,[3] and recalling the major United Nations conferences and the pledge to encourage and support frameworks initiated at the regional level, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development[4] and similar efforts in other regions,

Welcoming the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[5] which was opened for signature in Merida, Mexico, in December 2003,

Bearing in mind all its relevant resolutions, in particular those related to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[6] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the universal instruments against terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism adopted by the General Assembly on 13 April 2005,[7]

Bearing in mind also all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2005/14, 2005/15, 2005/16, 2005/17, 2005/18 and 2005/19 of 22 July 2005 and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction, and on the implementation of technical assistance in Africa,

Acknowledging the role of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and their development, as reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/28 of 21 July 2004,

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[3] Including the ninth meeting of the Regional Conference on Migration, held in Panama City on 20 and 21 May 2004 as part of the Puebla Process, and the Senior Officials' Meeting of the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held in Brisbane, Australia, on 7 and 8 June 2004 as part of the Bali Process.

[4] A/57/304, annex.

[5] Resolution 58/4, annex.

[6] Resolution 55/25, annexes I–III, and resolution 55/255, annex.

[7] Resolution 59/290, annex.

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction, and recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Office between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Expressing its appreciation for the resources provided by certain Member States, which in recent years have permitted the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies to enhance their capacity to execute an increased number of projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/159;[10]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to coordinate international cooperation efforts, and requests that a gender perspective continue to be integrated into all programmes and activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies, including the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;

5. *Also reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings, in all its aspects, smuggling of migrants and corruption, as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems, and stresses the need to enhance, in accordance with its existing mandates, its operational activities to assist, in particular, least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to provide Member States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions

[10] A/60/131.

and protocols related to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[9] in particular through training in the judicial and prosecutorial fields in their proper implementation, taking into account, in its programmes, the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen fair and effective criminal justice systems and the rule of law as an integral component of any strategy to counter terrorism;

7. *Expresses its grave concern* at the negative effects of transnational crime, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and trafficking in illicit drugs, on development, peace and security and human rights, and at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime;

8. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the global programmes addressing trafficking in human beings, including support and protection of victims, corruption, organized crime, money-laundering and terrorism, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the effectiveness of these programmes and to strengthen the focus of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on these priority programmes in crime prevention and criminal justice;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities;

10. *Invites* all States to increase their support to the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the plans of action of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century[3] as well as of the commitments undertaken at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the measures outlined in the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[11]

11. *Also invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions, the activities carried out by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies;

12. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures to complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons and related criminal activities such as kidnapping and the smuggling of migrants, as well as corruption and terrorism;

13. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

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[11] Resolution 60/177, annex.

14. *Encourages* relevant entities of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and invites the international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and regional and national funding agencies to further increase their support to and their interaction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort, and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption and the promotion of the rule of law are considered in their sustainable development agenda and that the expertise of the Office is fully utilized;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

16. *Also welcomes* the outcome of the round-table meeting on the theme "Crime and drugs as impediments to security and development in Africa", hosted by the Government of Nigeria in Abuja on 5 and 6 September 2005, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/32 of 21 July 2004, in the form of a comprehensive programme of action, 2006–2010, to strengthen the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa,[12] in which all African States, regional and subregional institutions, financial institutions and development partners are invited to integrate the issues of crime and drugs into their development strategies and into official development assistance for Africa;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to enable it to promote in an effective manner and, as appropriate, under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto[8] and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the said Conference of the Parties, in accordance with its mandate, and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly the reports of the said Conference of the Parties;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policymaking body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies;

20. *Urges* all States and competent regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to sign, ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption[7] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including the newly adopted International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;

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[12] Available from www.unodc.org/art/en/ppaa.html.

21. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

22. *Encourages* Member States to take into account the Model Bilateral Agreement on the Sharing of Confiscated Proceeds of Crime or Property annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/14 of 22 July 2005, as a useful model for those States interested in negotiating and concluding bilateral agreements to facilitate the sharing of proceeds of crime, resulting in greater international cooperation in that area, such cooperation being one of the principal objectives of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

23. *Encourages* States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which entered into force on 14 December 2005, through the Global Programme against Corruption of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.

64th plenary meeting
16 December 2005